Apostrophes

Apostrophes show possession:

1. For a word that does not end in s, add an apostrophe (’). Ex. The dog’s bowl is red.

2. For a singular word that ends in s, either add just an apostrophe or an apostrophe s. Ex. The business’ employees are invited to a picnic.

3. For a plural word that ends in s, just add an apostrophe. Ex. The trees’ leaves have all fallen.

Apostrophes show omission:

1. Shows that letters are left out of words. Ex. Contractions: can’t (cannot); He’s (He is); shan’t (shall not) Dates: ’90 for 1990

Apostrophes form certain plurals:

1. Numbers: Ex. 2’s
2. Letters: n’s
3. Words: referred to as words: Ex. and’s
4. Symbols: +’s and –’s

Misuse of Apostrophes:

1. Do not use an apostrophe to form the plural for other words. Ex. The dogs are cute.

2. Do not use an apostrophe for possessive pronouns. Ex. His car; its wheels